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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/784,304	02/24/2004	Shinji Uchida	SHO-0064	8300

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EXAMINER

ABRAMS, NEIL

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2839

DATE MAILED: 04/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/784,304

Applicant(s)

UCHIDA

Examiner

Neil Abrams

Art Unit

2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9, 11, 10/1, 10/2 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 10/1, 2, 3, 4 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

Title should be more specific.

Claim 10 objected to, line 6, "and pairs" renders the line unclear, and not consistent with spec. should it be -- and on a pair of outer walls --.

Claims 1, 2, 8/1, 8/2, 9/2, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by <sup>9/1 and</sup> or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Germany 801 alone or taken in view of Minds and Kostich.

Germany discloses a socket 20 with female dual in line contacts 22 arranged in parallel for receiving male contacts or a plug 14, a shutter 21 and springs 32. Claims 8, 9 relate to an obvious intended use and selection of dimensions. For claim 1, Germany appears to disclose all features but it is not clear that 20 and 31 are insulative. Kostich at 14, 5 and Minds at 40, 82, 70 show housings and shutters of insulative material. Obvious to use such type material in Germany since this would prevent shorting of contacts. Minds part 88 is an optional feature which need not be used.

Claims 3-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Germany 801 alone or <sup>taken</sup> in view of Minds and Kosich, applied as above and taken with Wu.

The Germany connector 20 is not disclosed as pcb mounted or as having a shield with solder tabs. Wu discloses a connector with contacts 42 to be pcb mounted and with shield 3 having tabs 33.

Obvious to so form the Germany socket since this would enable it to be used in typical electronic equipment.

Art Unit: 2839

Claims 11/1, 2, 3, 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by <sup>anyone of</sup> Germany 801 or Brickett.

Claim 11 only requires a plug with a flat header and contacts on the header as shown by Germany at 14 and Brickett at 36. No shutter is required by claim 11.

Claims 1, 2, 10/1 10/2, 8/1, 8/2, 9/1, 9/2, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brickett in view of Kameda and Kostich.

Brickett discloses connector 12 (fig. 1, 3) with in line contacts 14, shutter 20 and springs 22. Brickett does not disclose insulation for housing and shutter. Such use obvious in view of Kostich at 5, 14 as this is standard for connector housing parts. For claim 10, Brickett includes a plug with header 36 and shutter 38., but not one with a frame to receive the shutter. Kameda includes a plug fig. 1 with header 25, frame 20 and shutter 11 to be stored in the frame. It would have been obvious to provide such a frame on the Brickett fixed housing part 46 to receive the shutter 38 as it slides rearwardly. This would help to guide the shutter and protect the contacts 40.

Claims 10/3 and 10/4 define over prior art teachings.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: for claim 10 and Minds, that patent discloses an assembly with a plug having a shutter 62 that is stored in frame part 54. However, there is no proper suggestion to form the assembly with parallel rows of contacts rather than in the circular arrangement shown.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

Art Unit: 2839

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Neil Abrams at telephone number (571)272-2089.

Abrams/ds

04/12/05

  
NEIL ABRAMS  
EXAMINER  
ART UNIT 322